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Dear Harold,

My primary reactions to your letter of Feb. 12 were of shock and concern. I simply find it difficult to accept the apparent fact that my old friend and confidante, Harold is really seriously in physical trouble. I suppose I reject the notion because it affects me almost as much as it affects you, bringing home to me the fact that I am not invulnerable to the ills that affect the bodies of others, that I am heir to the ills of the flesh like everyone. You were always so strong and able to cope with physical projects. I [illegible] tackle like digging out the other half of the cellar under the house you and Lil had in Virginia when Nancy was a baby.

It is with feelings of incredulity that I read that you may have an arterial blockage as well as a venal one. My sister-in-law, Rae, who died in her sleep on January 29, 1975 had arterial troubles which required two operations for reaming out her femoral arteries. She, too, was a heavy smoker who had to give it up though she was also a diabetic who took Orinase for years and it is probably that drug which caused the vascular problems. After using the drug for years, the medicos finally discovered that it adversely affects the circulatory system.

I do hope that the final result of your physical tests is that you haven't got the arterial troubles, that you will quickly recover from your current very serious ailments and that we will be able to continue our friendship for many years to come with you keeping up the work you're doing to assure justice for all, to check on misuses of governmental power and to act as a gadfly of honesty for those who begin to believe that their civic power raises them above the laws.

I'm sorry I can't help you with your problem of getting a competent lawyer in Washington. Those I know are too busy advancing their own interests to step aside to help your young man and to change the adverse repercussions to which you have been exposed for bearding the powers that be. I'm also sorry I can't help with your New York lawyer problems. I can't. I'm hindered by the job I have. And the man I have do my work, Sid Osto, is semi-retired. He is in Florida now until April. When he comes back I'll talk to him about your problems. Maybe he can be of help in the manner you ask.

As for my retiring, I don't intend to for at least a couple of years. And if I do, it will only be to loose the shackles of the county job and to do some work on my own for the causes I hold dear, equal justice, equal housing, helping my family and friends.

So please take care, stay well and let us hear from you, especially if you need help we can give. Love to all. Frieda & Nancy send their love to both of you.

Sincerely
Sol